

(b) if so, the details of special incentives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) National Development Council has given its approval to the approach to the 11th Five Year Plan in its meeting held on 9.12.2006. The approach to the 11th Plan has recognized the special problems of the North East Region such as its geographical location, inadequacy of physical infrastructure, low level of entrepreneurship, etc.

**BPL people in Bihar and Maharashtra**

2501. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people living below poverty line in Bihar and Maharashtra; and

(b) the funds provided by Government to Bihar and Maharashtra under Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana during the financial year 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty at national and state level from the large sample survey on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years following the methodology contained in the Report of the Expert Group of Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor. The latest estimate of poverty is available for the year 1999-2000 based on the large sample survey of consumer expenditure data of the 55th Round of NSS. According to this, 425.64 lakh persons in undivided Bihar and 227.99 lakh persons in Maharashtra lived below the poverty line in 1999-2000.

(b) The funds provided by the Central Government to Bihar and Maharashtra under Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana during the financial year 2005-06 are Rs. 671.02 crore and Rs. 60.00 crore respectively.

**Fund for water supply scheme in Kerala**

2502. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether competent Authority has been granted fund for water supply scheme in Kerala State under the Prime Minister Grameen Yojana Scheme (PMGY);